News Release

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Edmonton City Hall displays Christian celebration of Easter

Edmonton, March 18, 2008 – The City of Edmonton and the Edmonton Interfaith Centre for Education and Action invite Edmontonians to view a new display highlighting the Christian faith celebration of Easter. The display officially opens March 18, 2008 and will be in City Hall until April 17, 2008.

The Easter faith display is presented by the Edmonton and District Council of Churches and will showcase religious symbols from different Christian communities. The display also provides an explanation of the role of these faith symbols in the annual re-telling of the Easter story.

Easter is the most important religious festival of the Christian liturgical year. It celebrates the resurrection of Jesus, which his followers believe occurred on the third day after his death by crucifixion. Through resurrection, Jesus is triumphant over death and assures eternal life for his people.

Easter is the climax of the 'Paschal Triduum', which begins on the previous Thursday, known as Maundy Thursday, with the celebration of the Lord's Supper and continues through to Good Friday with the solemn commemoration of Jesus' death on the cross. It includes Holy Saturday, which in many Christian churches concludes in the evening with the great Vigil of Easter and finishes with Evening Prayer on Easter Sunday, March 23, 2008.

Easter is a 50-day season, beginning on Easter Sunday and ending on Pentecost Sunday. This is a period for mediation and reflection on the accounts of the people who met the risen Jesus.

Edmontonians can view the Christian celebration of Easter display at Edmonton City Hall weekdays from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m., Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sundays and holidays from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The display is part of the *Celebrating Our Faiths* program. The City and the Edmonton Interfaith Centre founded the program to create greater awareness and understanding of the City's diverse faith communities.

About the Edmonton Interfaith Centre for Education and Action:

The Edmonton Interfaith Centre for Education and Action is a co-operative of faiths working together to increase awareness and understanding amongst the people of Edmonton of the various faiths and faith groups in our City. The faiths represented in our organization are: Aboriginal, Bahai, Buddhist, Christian, Eckankar, Hindu, Jain, Jewish, Muslim, Sikh, Scientology, Taoist, Unitarian, and Zoroastrian.
http://www.edminterfaithcentre.ca/

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About Edmonton:

This is a city alive with energy and boundless opportunity - a growing economic powerhouse where business thrives and more than a million lives enjoy the freedom to explore, experiment, experience, excel and expect the most out of every day. A place like no other, Edmonton is filled with surprises great and small and a calendar packed with artistic, sporting, theatrical and cultural celebration.

For more information on Edmonton, please visit our website at: www.edmonton.ca.

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THE CITY OF Edmonton